

# 150 Explosives Blast Through Provo's Cliffs

By CLARK H. CARAS  
Herald Staff Writer

Provo Canyon shook on Monday as 150 explosives were detonated along the cliff below the Murdock Diversion Dam, moving several thousand tons of material as part of the project to upgrade the highway through Provo Canyon.

"That cliff will eventually be taken down to the existing road level. That means it will have to be blasted down and cut about 140 feet," said Larry Buss, project engineer for the Utah Department of Transportation.

Monday's blast loosened material 20-25 feet below the top of the cliff, he said.

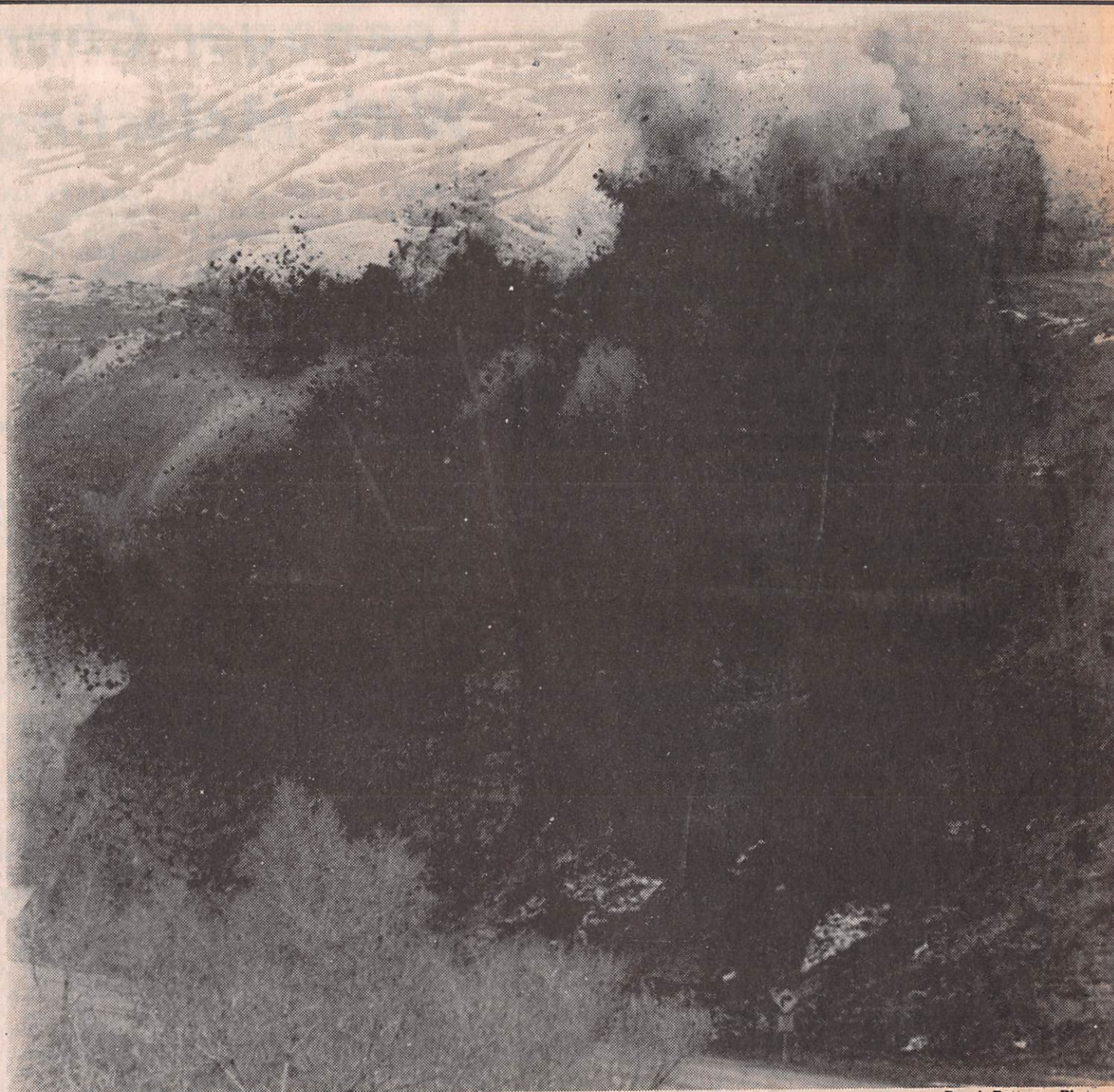
"We have got a Cat up there now moving the loosened material off the top. The blast doesn't blow it all out of the way but it does loosen it so we can move it," said Buss.

More holes were being bored into the cliff today in preparation for the next sequence of blasts, Buss said.

"It will take us about three or four months finishing all the blasting on that particular cliff. It's probably our biggest project in terms of men and equipment," he said.

Several other areas in the canyon from 800 N. to the dam will be blasted in the next few months, according to Buss. "We will start next just below the connection at 800 N. and take a sliver off the hillside there and then work our way up the canyon," he said.

Travelers through the canyon can expect delays during the summer as the canyon is closed for the blasting and then the clean-up, according to Buss.



Dennis Patterson Photo.

Massive walls came tumbling down Monday in Provo Canyon as explosives invaded the cliffs below Murdock dam.





Arthur Kallbacka casts his ballot today at Joaquin School.

## VOTE: Schools Wait Results

# Teenager Charged With Molesting Tot

**SEXUAL ABUSE** of child charges were filed Monday against a 17-year-old accused of taking indecent liberties with a three-year-old Orem girl in a foster home. Orem police arrested the teenager following a complaint from a Heritage Youth Services social worker at the Provo Youth Home. He is being detained there until a hearing is arranged.

**ILLEGAL ALIEN** sought in connection with the shooting Sunday of two men outside a Provo tavern has been identified as Rubin Luis Mora, 22, who has been living in Santaquin. Utah County Sheriff's detective Frank Wall said Mora may have fled to Arizona, but the detective believes he may be hiding out with friends in Utah Valley. Mora had been deported by immigration officials in August 1983, but reportedly was back at work at a plant in Moroni a month later.

Mora is sought on a warrant charging him with attempted homicide, a second-degree felony, in the shooting of Jaime O. Gastelo, 27, Orem, and Gabriel C. Paz, 27, also an illegal alien from Mexico. Paz remains in the Utah Valley Regional Medical Center, recovering from gunshot wounds to the abdomen. Gastelo was released Sunday.

Two Indian women in Provo who were in a car whose driver Mora forced to drive him to Springville, are also being sought for information. Charges of automobile theft against two other illegal aliens, a 17-year-old and David Gonzales, 19, who witnessed the shooting and delivered Gastelo and Paz to the hospital in Gastelo's van have been dropped.

**MEXICAN CARPENTER** is suspected of stealing two guns from an Orem house Monday. Lois Bird, 745 E. 300 N., reported to Orem police that a Winchester rifle and a .22 caliber gun, valued

## Police Beat

at \$375, were stolen from her basement. She said the worker was the last person in the basement, where he was doing some remodeling work.

**CEDAR FORT** resident complaints about motorists speeding on State Road 73 have led to extra patrol by Utah County Sheriff's Department patrolmen.

**SHERIFF'S INVESTIGATORS** are probing the theft of skis. The owner of the missing skis said they were taken at Sundance Ski Resort.

**AUTO FENDERS** theft was being investigated by county deputies from 4400 W. Utah Ave. Victim Jack Smith told deputies it was not the first time a car he owned had parts stolen from it.

**LOOSE CATTLE** on the highway near Cedar Fort have been reported recently.

**A BURGLARY** at John Kuhni and Sons, Dead Animal Removers, 2700 S. Kuhni Rd. in the county south of Provo is being investigated. County officials say someone broke in through a glass window pane and unlatched the door to gain access. Inside foot was taken and apparently eaten from a refrigerator and a sewing

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